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KANUGA

CONFERENCES
AN EPISCOPAL CENTER



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KANUGA CONFERENCES, INC.
HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

KANUGA

provides an experience in Christian Community living

through which each individual, led by the Holy Spirit,

comes to a deeper and more meaningful commitment

to God's Will through Jesus Christ,

preparing him to accept his responsibility

for growth in Christian Community

wherever he may be.





KANUGA



- • provides an extended period of living together in which Christian leaders can interpret to individuals the relevancy of the Gospel to the common events of everyday life.



KANUGA



. . challenges individuals to a deeper understanding of their faith and to a more fluent expression of their beliefs, so that they may bear effective witness to Christ and the Christian way.



KANUGA



. . . inspires individuals to respond to the love of God in worship that springs from an understanding heart.



KANUGA

provides, away from the
distractions of the world,
a relaxed atmosphere in
which people can sense
the presence of God
and seek to know
His Will for their lives.





KANUGA

contributes to the
maturity of individuals,
especially the young,
as they assume
responsibilities and
experience the satisfactions
of cooperation with others.



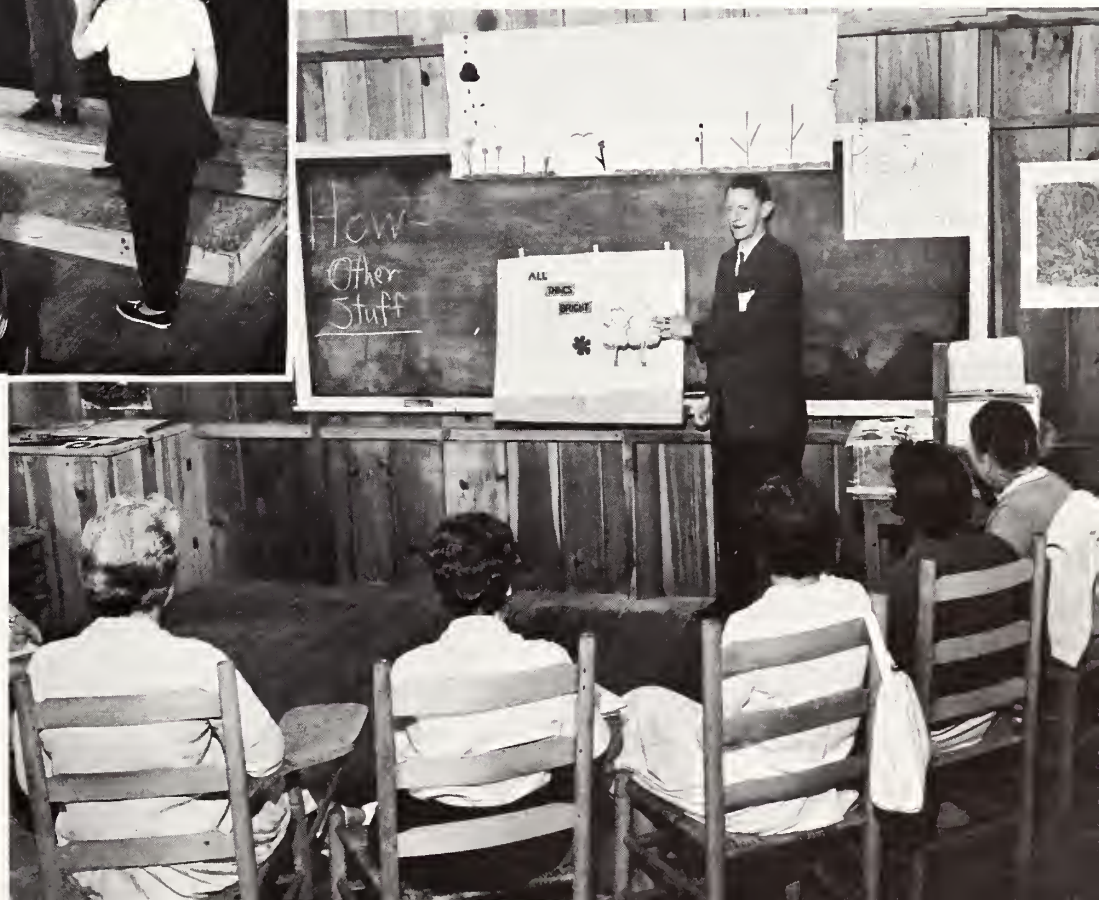


KANUGA

helps people of all
ages to discover and
appreciate new ways
for the creative use
of leisure time and
promotes the development
of talents and the
enjoyment of hobbies.

KANUGA

provides opportunities
for leadership training
for persons holding
positions of responsibility
in the life of the Church.





KANUGA . . . challenges and inspires individuals
to consider seriously vocations
within the life of the Church.

The heart of Kanuga's mission is the personal impact. The experiences made possible by Kanuga's program give vitality to its being. It is impossible to describe the motions of grace begun in the lives of people attending Kanuga, but one of them writes:

"Kanuga has above all other institutions given me what I know of the joy and dedication, the hard work and wholesome fun, and the call of Christ upon my life that make up my understanding of the Christian religion. Kanuga has done this through the people I have known who have dedicated so much of their lives to God's service in this institution. It has been abundantly clear that Kanuga seeks to exist only to serve and thereby stands as something sacramental, set apart, to show me that I exist only to serve. My view of my life and ministry has been largely shaped by my experiences at Kanuga. I know that I speak for many and that we are eternally grateful."

KANUGA *is Old in Years ...*

It was on a chance visit to Hendersonville in the early 1900's that George Stephens was shown the property now known as Kanuga. Mr. Stephens, a business man, an entrepreneur and a man of vision, saw immediately the possibilities for development of this tract of land high atop the Blue Ridge Mountains. By 1910, he opened what was known as the Kanuga Club, a very exclusive private club offering to its select membership an opportunity for a delightful family vacation. Forty-two of the existing buildings were among the original structures erected by Mr. Stephens and his associates.

The Club prospered for a time but faced rough sledding by the early 20's. It was just at this time that the Episcopal Church in the Carolinas was catching the vision of the place of camps and conferences in the Church's program of Christian Education. Some Adult Conferences were being held at Valle Crucis and a Young Peoples Conference, sparked by leaders from the upper part of South Carolina, was being held on rented property, first at Etowah, later near Brevard.

In 1928 the Episcopal Church acquired the Kanuga property as a camp and conference center for the Carolinas. Many prominent men were involved in this tremendous venture, among them the Rt. Rev. Kirkman G. Finlay and Dr. W. H. K. Pendleton who persevered when others had given up all hope, Mr. Alan Wood of Pennsylvania whose very generous gift covered nearly half the cost of the property and Mr. George Stephens, himself a devoted Churchman, who did much to make it possible for the Church to consummate the purchase. Within a few years, subsequent purchases enlarged the property to very nearly the 1200 acres presently held.

Providing a vital program with outstanding leadership, Kanuga rapidly became widely known and highly respected throughout the Church. Kanuga was soon recognized as the largest conference center in the Episcopal Church.

... But Young in Spirit

The present must pay homage to the past, for it is the foundation upon which the present builds. But the duty of the present is just that — to build upon the past.

And so it is at Kanuga. Aware of changing patterns and new needs, Kanuga has shown its vitality during the last decade by a substantial expansion of the camp and conference program. The number of conferences scheduled, has doubled in the last ten years and the number of people participating in the various conferences has nearly doubled. Of greater significance is the substantial impact the current conferences are having both on those who attend and, often, on the parishes to which they return.

The rapid increase in the number of children in the population has placed heavy demands on church camping facilities. Kanuga has kept pace! The new Kanuga Camp for Boys, first used in 1962, provides facilities for a greatly expanded camping program. This beautifully rustic campsite looking

down toward Lake McCready represents a \$60,000 investment — an investment already well justified by the substantial increase in attendance. Together with the old camp, now designated the Kanuga Camp for Girls, Kanuga can readily accommodate the rapidly increasing number of campers.

The quality and effectiveness of the program has been a major concern during recent years. Careful study has led to the development of programs which are designed to interpret effectively the relevancy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all phases of daily living. Kanuga has been concerned also that the participants in its program shall have an experience in Christian community which will be not only satisfying at the time, but which will be meaningful in their daily lives at home and in the parish.

Development and expansion, however, has been not only in the areas of program and numbers of participants. There has also been considerable expansion and improvement of the physical facilities at Kanuga. Of the 90 buildings on the Kanuga property, 24 have been constructed within the last ten years. These include the large recreation hall at the Girls Camp, Pendleton Hall at the Conference Center, and the new Camp for Boys. Much work has been done on the renovation of the older buildings, especially the cottages. The new kitchen wing is the largest single addition to the Conference Center. Many of the improvements have been vitally necessary but quite unseen — improvements to the water system, a new sewer system, steel supports in the Chapel, etc. Almost \$200,000 has been spent in recent years on major improvements and additions to the Kanuga property!

Kanuga is a vital, living and growing institution of the Church. It is also a sound and solvent business. Kanuga is completely free of debt! The expansion and improvements have been made on a pay-as-you-go basis and a long standing indebtedness has been paid off.

... Eagerly Facing The Future

The role of camps and conferences as tools of Christian Education in the Church is being reassessed. The effectiveness of these extended periods of learning and fellowship is becoming widely recognized. Lives are being changed!

New opportunities and new challenges continue to present themselves. Kanuga is well aware of many areas of special interest or concern not being adequately met by today's program.

The opportunities for increased service by Kanuga are many — and some are pressing. There is a vision and a readiness to meet the needs and the challenges of the present day. Plans for further expansion of the Kanuga program, however, must be subject to certain limitations imposed by the condition of some of the existing buildings. A number of the larger original buildings — now more than 50 years old — must either be given extensive repair and renovation, or be replaced entirely. This must precede any major expansion of the program, pressing though that might be.

Having benefited richly from the efforts of many who have gone before, it is our privilege to build anew so as to meet the needs of those yet to come!



Bishop Baker



Bishop Fraser



Bishop Henry



Bishop Pinckney



Bishop Temple



Bishop Wright

We, the Bishops of the five owning Dioceses, speaking both for ourselves and for the Board of Directors of Kanuga, warmly commend to you the program of Kanuga.

The camps and conferences at Kanuga are an extension of the Christian Education program of our Dioceses. They play a vital role in the life of the Church, providing opportunities for an experience in Christian community, for understanding of the relevancy of the Gospel and the true mission of the Church. They provide for the laity excellent opportunities for leadership training under some of the outstanding leaders in our Church.

Kanuga has made, and is making, a very significant contribution to the life of the Church throughout this Province and especially here in the Carolinas. We are firmly convinced that Kanuga can and will be an even greater influence as the program is expanded to meet the demands of our growing Church.

We are pleased with the substantial progress that has been made in recent years toward the improvement of the Kanuga property. We are fully aware, however, of the limitations imposed by the condition of certain buildings and we are most anxious that all necessary steps be taken to remove these obstacles to further development of the Kanuga program.

It is the sincere desire of each one of us that all of you will share with us a thoughtful concern for the future of Kanuga. The work of the Church at Kanuga is of vital importance and we earnestly solicit your generous support.

The Rt. Rev. M. George Henry
Diocese of Western North Carolina
Black Mountain

The Rt. Rev. Gray Temple
Diocese of South Carolina
Charleston

The Rt. Rev. Richard H. Baker
Diocese of North Carolina
Raleigh

The Rt. Rev. John A. Pinckney
Diocese of Upper South Carolina
Columbia

The Rt. Rev. Thomas A. Fraser, Jr.
Diocese of North Carolina
Raleigh

The Rt. Rev. Thomas H. Wright
Diocese of East Carolina
Wilmington

The Opportunity is Yours

Just as there are many of you in widely different circumstances reading this, so there are many different ways in which you may share in the development of Kanuga to its full potential.

An increasing number of parishes are supporting Kanuga by including an item in the parish budget, or by giving a special offering to Kanuga. You can help by encouraging your parish to express its interest and support in this way.

More than 100 branches of the Episcopal Churchwomen are supporting Kanuga with an item in the annual budget. You can help by encouraging your group to do likewise, or to increase its present support.

Within the last few years a few Episcopal Young Churchmen groups have expressed their gratitude to Kanuga by sending a contribution. You can help by stimulating similar interest in your youth group.

You can help directly, of course, by making your own personal contribution to Kanuga. Whether you think in terms of a modest gift or a generous amount, whether in terms of a one-time gift, or an annual contribution, your interest and your support will help Kanuga meet the challenge of growth.

You can help by including Kanuga in your will. The correct phrasing for a bequest is as follows:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to Kanuga Conferences, Inc.,
Hendersonville, North Carolina,"

Contributions to Kanuga are deductible from net taxable income. Bequests are deductible in computing value of the net estate.

Inquiries and gifts may be addressed to Kanuga Conferences, Inc., Hendersonville, N. C.



Photography by Edw. L. DuPuy



